



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/707,734	01/08/2004	Chih-Chuan Cheng	CEIP0060USA	1733

27765 7590 07/31/2007
NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 506
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

HASAN, SYED Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2621

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-------------------	---------------

07/31/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

winstonhsu.uspto@gmail.com
Patent.admin.uspto.Rcv@naipo.com
mis.ap.uspto@naipo.com.tw

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/707,734	Applicant(s) CHENG ET AL.	
	Examiner Syed Y. Hasan	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo (US 6798980) in view of Werner et al (US 6767253)

Regarding **claim 1**, Seo discloses a digital recorder capable of outputting a data format (col 3, lines 1 – 11) the digital recorder comprising:

a housing (abstract, apparatus)

a multiple format converting module installed in the housing (figure 2, 50, col 3, lines 32 – 34, format converting unit) for converting the format of digital audiovisual (AV) signals of the digital recorder (col 1, lines 57 – 60)

a port connected to a multiple format converting module (figure 2, 50, col 3, lines 32 – 34, format converting unit)

a storage media installed in the housing for storing the digital AV signals of the digital recorder (figure 1, 40 and 60, col 3, lines 12 - 17) and

a controller electrically connected to the multiple format converting module and the storage media, for controlling the operation of the multiple format converting module and the storage media (figure 1, 71, col 3, lines 26 - 27)

However Seo does not disclose a plurality of connecting ports in different formats installed on the housing and connected to a module

On the other hand Werner teaches a plurality of connecting ports in different formats installed on the housing and connected to a module (figure 2b, col 4, lines 51 – 56)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a plurality of connecting ports in different formats installed on the housing and connected to a module as taught by Werner et al in the system of Seo in order to be able to connect to different formats easily.

Regarding **claim 6**, Seo discloses the digital recorder further comprising an on-screen display (OSD) controlling unit for displaying operating messages of the digital recorder (col 4, lines 33 - 34)

Regarding **claim 7**, Seo discloses the digital recorder wherein the storage media is a hard disk drive (figure 1, 60, col 3 , lines 30 - 31)

3. Claims 2, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo (US 6798980) in view of Werner et al (US 6767253) and further in view of Bilbrey (US 2002/0164156)

Regarding **claim 2**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al does not disclose one of the plurality of the connecting ports is directly connected to a connecting port on a computer by a cable

On the other hand Bilbrey teaches one of the plurality of the connecting ports is directly connected to a connecting port on a computer by a cable (figure 6, 116

connected to 100 via 120, clarifying that 116 and 100 constitute recorder and computer)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate one of the plurality of the connecting ports is directly connected to a connecting port on a computer by a cable as taught by Bilbrey in the combined system of Seo and Werner et al in order to be able to connect to different formats easily.

Regarding **claim 8**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al does not disclose one of the plurality of connecting ports conforms to one of the standards selected from USB 1.0, USB 2.0, PCI, SCSI or IEEE1394

On the other hand Bilbrey teaches one of the plurality of connecting ports conforms to one of the standards selected from USB 1.0, USB 2.0, PCI, SCSI or IEEE1394 (page 4, para 0057, IEEE 1394)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate one of the plurality of connecting ports conforms to one of the standards selected from USB 1.0, USB 2.0, PCI, SCSI or IEEE1394 as taught by Bilbrey in the combined system of Seo and Werner et al in order to be able to connect to different formats easily.

Regarding **claim 9**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al does not disclose the digital recorder being a dock for a notebook

On the other hand Bilbrey teaches the digital recorder being a dock for a notebook (figure 6, 116 and 120, page 4, para 0057, 120 in combination with 116

becomes a dock for a notebook)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the digital recorder being a dock for a notebook as taught by Bilbrey in the combined system of Seo and Werner et al in order to be able to provide the flexibility of using the recorder remotely.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo (US 6798980) in view of Werner et al (US 6767253) and further in view of Ahn (US 2005/0169114)

Regarding **claim 3**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11) the multiple format converting module (figure 2, 50, lines 32 – 34, format converting unit) and the storage media (figure 1, 102, page 2, para 0026)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) installed in the housing for converting analog AV signals into digital AV signals and a coder/decoder (CODEC) electrically connected to the ADC, for receiving, coding and decoding the digital AV signals from the ADC, and outputting the digital AV signals

On the other hand Ahn teaches an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) installed in the housing for converting analog AV signals into digital AV signals (figure 2, 211, page 2, para 00260) and a coder/decoder (CODEC) electrically connected to the ADC, for receiving, coding and decoding the digital AV signals from the ADC, and outputting the digital AV signals (figure 2, 214 and 216, page 2, para 0026)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to incorporate an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) installed in the housing for converting analog AV signals into digital AV signals; and a coder/decoder (CODEC) electrically connected to the ADC; for receiving, coding and decoding the digital AV signals from the ADC, and outputting the digital AV signals as taught by Ahn in the combined system of Seo and Werner et al in order to provide a conversion from analog to digital format and a better quality of recorded data.

5. Claims 4 and 10 - 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo (US 6798980) in view of Werner et al (US 6767253) and further in view of Chang et al (US 2003/0090515)

Regarding **claim 4**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose an infrared signal receiving module installed on the housing and electrically connected to the controller, for receiving infrared signals to control the operation of the digital recorder.

On the other hand Chang et al teaches an infrared signal receiving module installed on the housing and electrically connected to the controller, for receiving infrared signals to control the operation of the digital recorder (figure 1, 22 and 36, page 2, para 0028)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an infrared signal receiving module installed on the housing and electrically connected to the controller, for receiving infrared signals to control the operation of the digital recorder as taught by Chang et al in the combined system of Seo and Werner in order to control the apparatus from a remote operation.

Regarding **claim 10**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11) and the multiple format converting module (figure 2, 50, lines 32 – 34, format converting unit)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose a radio transceiver module for transmitting and receiving radio signals.

On the other hand Chang et al teaches a radio transceiver module for transmitting and receiving radio signals (figure 1, 22 and 36, page 2 , para 0028)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a radio transceiver module for transmitting and receiving radio signals as taught by Chang et al in the combined system of Seo and Werner in order to in order to control the apparatus from a remote operation.

Regarding **claim 11**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose that the radio transceiver module exchanges data with a radio transceiver module on the computer by radio signals.

On the other hand Chang et al teaches that the radio transceiver module exchanges data with a radio transceiver module on the computer by radio signals (figure 1, 22 and 36, page 2, para 0028)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate that the radio transceiver module exchanges data with a radio transceiver module on the computer by radio signals as taught by Chang et al in the combined system of Seo and Werner in order to in order to control the apparatus from a

remote operation.

Regarding **claim 12**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11) the computer comprises a processor (col 4, lines 8 - 10), an AV processing device on the computer for receiving and converting the digital AV signals from the digital recorder (col 1, lines 57 - 60), and a display device for displaying the digital AV signals from the AV processing device ((col 4, lines 33 - 34)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose the radio transceiver module

On the other hand Chang et al teaches the radio transceiver module (figure 1, 22, page 2, para 0028)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the radio transceiver module as taught by Chang et al in the combined system of Seo and Werner in order to in order to control the apparatus from a remote operation.

Claim 13 is rejected based on claim 12 above.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seo (US 6798980) in view of Werner et al (US 6767253) and further in view of Keller et al (US 2005/0128889)

Regarding **claim 5**, Seo discloses the digital recorder (col 3, lines 1 – 11)

However the combination of Seo and Werner et al do not disclose a basic input/output system (BIOS) for providing programs necessary for basic operations of the digital recorder.

On the other hand Keller et al teaches a basic input/output system (BIOS) for providing programs necessary for basic operations of the digital recorder (figure 5A, page 6, para 0052)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a basic input/output system (BIOS) for providing programs necessary for basic operations of the digital recorder as taught by Keller et al in the combined system of Seo and Werner in order to initialize the apparatus for smoother performance.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure

Ando et al (US 7003214) discloses a recordings, edit and playback methods of audio information and information storage medium.

Fujita et al (US 6987924) discloses a recorder/reproducer.

Hartung et al (US 6226441) discloses a multipurpose digital recording method and apparatus and media therefor.

Iizuka et al (US 5974015) discloses a digital recorder.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Syed Y. Hasan whose telephone number is 571-270-1082. The examiner can normally be reached on 9/8/5.

Art Unit: 2621

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

S.Y.H.
7/18/2007

Mehrdad Dastouri
MEHRDAD DASTOURI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TC 2600
for Thai Tran